REMARKS

Claims 1-6 and 12-20 are now pending in the application, Claims 7-11 having been previously cancelled. Claims 1-6 have been withdrawn, without traverse, pursuant to Applicant's election in response to a restriction requirement. Claims 12-20 are rejected and Claim 13 is objected to. Claim 16 has been cancelled. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Claim 13 stands objected to for a minor informality. Applicant has amended Claim 13 to depend from Claim 12, rather than Claim 1. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 12-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vaid (U.S. Pat. Pub. No. 2002/0091843; hereinafter "Vaid") in view of Tjalldin et al. (U.S. Pat. Pub. No. 2004/0014497, hereinafter "Tjalldin"), and further in view of Bork et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,633,932; hereinafter "Bork"). Claim 15 stands rejected over Vaid in view of Tjalldin. Claims 16-17 stand rejected over Vaid in view of Tjalldin, and further in view of Bork. Claims 18-19 stand rejected over Vaid in view of Bork. Claim 20 stands rejected over Vaid in view of Bork, and further in view of Tjalldin. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

At the outset, Applicant notes that independent Claim 12 now recites:

a first connector interface cable comprising a connector for connecting the apparatus to a networking interface circuit of the computing device, and for receiving a first networking signal from the computing device, wherein the networking interface circuit is housed in the computing device;

a second connector interface cable comprising a connector for connecting the apparatus to a Universal Serial Bus (USB) port in the computing device for receiving a source of power to power the apparatus; and

a conversion module having a first connector interface port adapted to receive the first connector interface cable to receive the first networking signal from the first connector interface cable, and a second connector interface port for receiving a wireless networking interface card, the conversion module operable to convert the first networking signal into a second networking signal, to receive and convert wireless networking signals into a form that can be processed by the network interface circuit, and to interface said computing device to said wireless network on the mobile platform without first requiring modification to hardware of the computing device.

Applicant also notes that independent Claim 15 has been amended to include:

a first cable comprising a connector for connecting the portable apparatus to a networking interface circuit of the computing device of the individual on the aircraft, the cable for receiving a first networking signal from the computing device;

a second cable comprising a connector for connecting the apparatus to a port in the computing device for receiving a source of power to power the apparatus from the computing device of the individual on the aircraft; and

a conversion module having a first connector interface port adapted to receive the first cable to receive the first networking signal from the cable, a second connector interface port for receiving a wireless networking interface card, and a third connector interface port for receipt of the second cable to power the conversion module, the conversion module operable to convert the first networking signal into a second networking signa,

said wireless networking interface card being disposed in said conversion module and in communication with said conversion module for interfacing the second networking signal with said wireless network on the aircraft, to interface said computing device of the individual on the aircraft to said wireless network on the aircraft without first requiring modification to hardware of the computing device.

Additionally, Applicant also notes that independent Claim 18 has been amended to include:

a first connector interface cable comprising a connector for connecting the apparatus to a networking interface circuit of the computing device, for receiving a first networking signal from the computing device, wherein the networking interface circuit is housed in the computing device;

a second connector interface cable comprising a connector for connecting the apparatus to a port in the computing device for receiving power from the computing device to power the apparatus; and

a conversion module having a first connector interface port adapted to receive the first connector interface cable, and to receive the first networking signal from the connector interface cable, and a second connector interface port adapted to receive the second connector interface cable to power the conversion module for converting the first networking signal into a second networking signal, and interfacing said computing device to said wireless network without first requiring modification to hardware of the computing device;

said conversion module further comprising a third connector interface port for receiving a wireless networking interface card.

Applicant respectfully asserts that these features as claimed are not taught or suggested whatsoever by Vaid, Tjalldin or Bork, either alone or in combination.

With regard to Vaid, Vaid appears to disclose a wireless network adaptor 106 with a plurality of device ports 112 for receipt of terminals from various devices, such as PDAs or cellular phones. The wireless network adaptor 106 of Vaid does not disclose or suggest whatsoever the use of a second cable to power the wireless network adaptor 106. Applicant respectfully submits that it is improper to modify Vaid to include a second cable to power the device in Vaid, as there is no suggestion teaching the desirability of this modification. Specifically:

> Obviousness cannot be established by combining the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention, absent some teaching or suggestion supporting the combination. Under section 103, teachings of references can be combined *only* if there is some suggestion or incentive to do so.

ACS Hosp. Sys., Inc. v. Montefiore Hosp, 732 F.2d 1572, 1577, 221 USPQ 929, 933 (Fed. Cir. 1984). Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submits that it is improper to modify Vaid to include a wireless networking card for the same reason. In addition, Applicant notes that it is improper for the Examiner to modify Vaid for use on an aircraft or a mobile platform, as Vaid does not teach or suggest the desirability of this modification and, as is generally known, the FAA restricts the use of the devices disclosed in Vaid on aircraft.

Applicant respectfully asserts that neither Tjalldin nor Bork address the deficiencies of Vaid. Tjalldin appears merely to disclose a bridge for communicating between two wireless networks (see at least [0014]). Tjalldin does not disclose or suggest whatsoever interfacing the wireless networks to a personal computing device. Tjalldin further does not mention or suggest whatsoever the use of an interface cable to communicate with a conversion module to interface the computing device with a

wireless network through a wireless network card as presently claimed. In addition, Applicant notes that to modify the device of Tjalldin to include a connector interface port for a connector interface cable would impermissibly modify Tjalldin, as the primary purpose of Tjalldin is to enable users of the device to connect wirelessly between two different networks. (See at least paragraphs [0014], [0017]). Applicant notes Bork does not disclose or suggest whatsoever a conversion module for use with a wireless networking card to interface a computing device with a wireless network on a mobile platform as claimed. Rather, Bork merely discloses coupling a cellular phone to a personal computer to power the cellular phone. In addition, Applicant respectfully asserts it would be impermissible to modify Bork to arrive at Applicant's invention as Bork does not teach or suggest the desirability of this modification whatsoever.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that independent Claims 12, 15 and 18 are patentable and in condition for allowance. In addition, as Claims 13, 14, 17, 19 and 20 each depend from either independent Claims 12, 15 or 18, Applicant respectfully submits these claims are also patentable and in condition for allowance.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt

and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 1/23/06

By: _____

Mark D. Elchuk, Reg. No. 33,686
Erica K. Schaefer, Reg. No. 55,861

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303
(248) 641-1600

MDE/EKS/lf-s

G:\eschaefe\7784\000300-399\000309\Amendment to OA mailed 011.04.05\Amendment.doc